THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Most Western countries did not express approval of the US action. However, the UK, France, Denmark and Australia voted along with U.S.A. against the Nonaligned resolution in the Security Council. The U.N. Secretary General has been making every effort to defuse the situation.

(b) The Warsaw Pact powers were extremely critical of the US action and in the Security Council both USSR and Bulgaria voted in favour of the Nonaligned Resolution.

Freedom Fighters' Pension for the participants of Hyderabad Mukti Sangram

1333. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV): Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases are pending for the grant of freedom fighters' pensions for those who participated in Hyderabad Mukti Sangram who were jailed or went underground; and

(b) by what time they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Approximately 7000 cases from Ex-Hyderabad Region are pending as on 31-3-1986.

(b) With a view to dispose of cases of claims of participants in this struggle during 1947-48, a non-official Committee called the Hyderabad Special Screening Committee has been set up to scrutinise such claims and this Committee has already started its work. As regards claims of jail sufferings, such cases are being disposed of in consultation with the State Govts., concerned etc. No time limit can be fixed for disposal of all pending cases. Efforts are however, being made to clear all such cases by the end of March, 1987.

Renewal of French proposal for Licence production of Mirage-2000

1334. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 815 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1985 and state:

(a) whether the French producers of Mirage-2000 aircraft have renewed their proposal for licence production of this aircraft in India;

(b) whether Government have accepted this offer; if so what are the terms and conditions of the new deal signed between the two countries; and

(c) whether the Marcel Dassault had delivered the first lot of the aircraft in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Criminal escaping from Tihar Jail

1335. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminals who escaped from Tihar Jail during the last three years;

(b) the names of the criminals and the period of punishment they were to undergo in Tihar at the time of escape;

(c) whether any action has been taken against concerned officials in each case;

(d) how many of the escaped criminals were re-arrested; and

(e) the number of those who could not be arrested so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) 14 criminals escaped from Tihar Jail during the last 3 years.